(c) if so, what progress has so for been made in the matter ; and

(d) by when a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (c) While the Government has under its consideration the question of restructuring of Department of Supply/DGS AD, no final decision has been taken in the matter. Details such as the placement of DGS &D and its employees under a different Department/Ministry would be finalised at the appropriate time in the light of the Government decision on the main issue of restructuring.

(d) No definite time frame has been drawn up.

Export-oriented Units in NER

4437. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of export-oriented units functioning at present in the NER state-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to set up export-oriented units in NER, particularly where no such unit is functioning;

(c) if so the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) One Export Oriented Unit (EOU) is functioning in Assam and three in Sikkim. Although three EOUs have been approved in Meghalaya and one in Tripura but none of them is functioning.

(b) and (c) EOUs are set up by private enterprise and approvals are accorded as per EXIM Policy. Government acts only as a facilitator for their implementation.

(d) The Government is organising seminars/open houses to publicise the scheme in consultation with State Governments.

Items Exported from NER

4438. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of exported from the States of NER during the last five years;

(b) the details of amount of foreign exchange earned through export of these items; and

(c) the details of incentives being given to exporters operating their business in NER ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The Central Government maintains export data for the country as a whole and not State-wise. However, the main items of export from the North East region of India are coal, ginger, dry chilly, fruits and vegetables limestone, sugar, onion, kerosene, salt and spices, engineering goods, drugs and pharmaceuticals.

(b) As per the available data from Customs, exports from the North East region during the last four years are as follows :

Period	Export (Rupees in Crores)
1995-96	169.83
1996-97	108.94
1997-98	439.02
1998-99	418.08

(c) Double weightage is provided to the exporters from NE region for fulfilling export obligations for the purpose of granting the status of Export House etc. Air subsidy is also provided for exports of pineapple exported from airports located in the North East i.e. Agartala, Silchar, Guwahati, Imphal etc. The minimum export obligation for the units located in Export Promotion Industrial Parks in the North East has been kept at 25% of the production as against 33% which is the norm.

Exporting Minerals

4439. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of minerals exported from the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) tha names of the countries to which these minerals were exported and;

(c) the foreign exchange earned therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Sir, Country-wise export details of minerals exported during the last three years, alongwith destination and value thereof are given in the statement *(see* below).State-wise details are notmaintained by DGCI&S/Agencies involved.